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George Lardner, newsroom 10/2/95

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Dwar George,

Thanks for the ARRB releases and for your note explaining that the batch had been dropped and were probably out of order. And that there were two sets.

They were and I've what I think is a full set in one stack and the duplicates in another than is not as thick.

I skimmed them as I separated them. I read some of the shorter ones or those on which I spotted a name of interest, and when I'm fresher and have more time not likely to be interrupted I'll go over the full-set stack, and add extras to the other.

There are a few things I noticed that you and/or Pincus may be interested in.

I told him that there had to exist at least one tape of an Oswald intercept in Mexico City and there should be a dub. These records confirm that and that it was the CIA that had the dub. Pincus told me they deny there is any tape and that those who said they'd heard it were mixed up or wrong.

These records seem to confirm that Oswald's picture was taken and kept and that the CIA knew that. They do not address whether the CIA knew that when they sent the wrong one to Dallas but I think that had to have been known because those pictures were on a reel or something like it. The records seem to conform that the CIA had that picture for some years, the right one, and then it sort-of disappeared. Destruction of it was prohibited and I have a file drawer of records relating to the preservation of historical records and what must be done before they can be dispoased of.

Despite its immediate and great interest in Kostikov the CIA knew from its intercept that it was not ~~Oswald rather~~ Kostikov to whom Oswald spoke. Yet it hyped that line. CIA Mexico City also knew that Alvarado Ugarte was not dependable yet they hypped his line to Mann an to others and some of them and Mann never gave up on it, impossible as he story was as he first told it. Mann never gave up on what would have meant World War III on this junk. That they knew from earlier relations with him that Alvarado could be undependable is new to me.

With one possible exception I did not notice anything reflecting bugging of the Soviet embassy. The ARRB said there were two such documents. What their bugging information seems not to include is that Oswald meeting with I think Yatskov, not Kostikov.

Many thanks,

Harold